

## 03050111-050

(*Potato Creek*)

### General Description

Watershed 03050111-050 is located in Clarendon County and consists primarily of *Potato Creek* and its tributaries. The watershed occupies 31,656 acres of the Upper Coastal Plain region of South Carolina. The predominant soil types consist of an association of the Noboco-Bonneau-Paxville-Rutledge series. The erodibility of the soil (K) averages 0.15; the slope of the terrain averages 2%, with a range of 0-10%. Land use/land cover in the watershed includes: 36.0% forested land, 27.7% scrub/shrub land, 21.7% agricultural land, 7.8% forested wetland, 6.5% water, and 0.3% nonforested wetland.

Potato Creek accepts the drainage of Wyboo Swamp, Church Branch, and Big Branch as it forms an arm of Lake Marion. Wyboo Swamp is formed from the drainage of Dean Swamp, Buckhead Branch, McCoys Branch, Rooty Branch, Bluff Branch, White Oak Branch (Three Hole Swamp), Birch Branch, White Oak Creek, Lizzies Branch (Clubhouse Branch) and Carroll Slough. There are a total of 62.3 stream miles and 1,719.8 acres of lake waters in this watershed, all classified FW. The Santee National Wildlife Refuge extends over a large portion of the watershed.

### Water Quality

<u>Station #</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Description</u>
SC-020	SC	FW	POTATO CREEK AT S-14-127
SC-019	SC	FW	LAKE MARION, MIDSTREAM OF POTATO CREEK EMBAYMENT
SC-023	SC	FW	LAKE MARION, MIDSTREAM OF WYBOO CREEK EMBAYMENT
SC-035	SC	FW	LAKE MARION AT MOUTH OF WYBOO CREEK

*Potato Creek Embayment* - Aquatic macrophytes have proliferated and public access has been restricted in Potato Creek due to shallow depth and high nutrient levels. To abate aquatic plant growth in this area of the lake, aquatic herbicides have been applied several times since 1989. In addition, the waterbody was stocked with grass carp in 1994, 1995, and 1997.

There are two sites sampled by the SCPSA along Potato Creek. Aquatic life and recreational uses are fully supported at *SC-019*. Aquatic life uses are also fully supported at *SC-020*. Recreational uses are partially supported due to fecal coliform bacteria excursions.

*Wyboo Creek* - Aquatic macrophytes have proliferated and public access has been restricted in Wyboo Creek due to shallow depth and high nutrient levels. To abate aquatic plant growth in this area of the lake, aquatic herbicides have been applied several times since 1989. In addition, the waterbody was stocked with grass carp in 1994 and 1995.

Wyboo Creek is sampled at two locations by SCPSA. Recreational uses are fully supported at both sites. At the upstream site (*SC-023*), aquatic life uses are fully supported; however, elevated

nutrient concentrations indicate the potential for adverse impacts to aquatic life due to eutrophication. Aquatic life uses are fully supported at the downstream site **(SC-035)**.

*A fish consumption advisory has been issued by the Department for mercury and includes portions of Lake Marion within this watershed (see advisory p.34).*

## **Nonpoint Source Management Program**

### ***Land Disposal Activities***

#### **Land Application Sites**

***LAND APPLICATION SYSTEM  
FACILITY NAME***

***PERMIT #  
TYPE***

SPRAY ON GOLF COURSE  
WYBOO PLANTATION/PHASE II

ND0072427  
DOMESTIC

## **Growth Potential**

There is a moderate potential for continued residential and commercial development along this section of lakeshore, which includes several new subdivisions and golf courses. The watershed also contains the Clarendon County Airport.